
By: **Harford County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2004

Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 17, 2004

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Transfers**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the criteria required to be used by the Harford County

4 Liquor Control Board when transferring an alcoholic beverages license for use in

5 a business; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Harford

6 County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages

9 Section 10-503(a)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages

14 Section 10-503(n)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages

10-503.

(a) (1) In this section, "board" means the board of license commissioners or liquor control board, as the case may be, of the county or Baltimore City.

(2) Any holder of a license under this article, including a receiver or trustee for the benefit of creditors, may be permitted to transfer the holder's place of business to some other location or sell or assign the license and transfer the holder's stock in trade to another person, but only if:

(i) An application for the transfer or sale has been made;

(ii) All retail sales, amusement, admission, and withholding taxes have been paid to the Comptroller of the Treasury of the State;

(iii) A bulk transfer permit is obtained if the stock of alcoholic beverages is to be transferred whether by sale, gift, inheritance, assignment, or otherwise, and irrespective of whether or not consideration is paid; and

(iv) The new location or assignee is approved by the board as in the case of an original application for such a license under § 10-202 of this title.

(3) A transfer or assignment, when made, shall be endorsed upon the license by the license issuing authority upon payment of a fee of \$20 in addition to the costs of publication and notice, which shall be paid to the local collecting agent at the time of the filing of the application for the transfer or sale. This section permits the transfer of location and the assignment of license in the same application.

(4) A board may not permit the transfer of an alcoholic beverages license until the transferor has complied with the Bulk Transfers Act, Commercial Law Article, Title 6, and has certified such compliance, by affidavit, to the board.

(5) The provisions of this section apply in every county and in Baltimore City, unless otherwise provided in this section.

(n) (1) This subsection applies only in Harford County.

(2) The Board:

(i) May not transfer the location or ownership of any alcoholic beverages license of any class for the use in a business that is intended to be operated as a drive-through purchase facility where alcoholic beverages are to be sold at retail and dispensed through a window or door to a purchaser in or on a motor vehicle for off-premises consumption; or

(ii) May not transfer the location or ownership of any off-sale alcoholic beverages license of any class with the privilege of operating the premises as a drive-through purchase facility.

1 (3) (i) The Board shall transfer an alcoholic beverages license that is
2 issued for use in a business if:

- 3 1. The business is sold to a different owner; AND
4 2. [The location remains the same;
5 3. The license has been held by the transferor for a period of
6 15 years prior to the date of application for transfer;
7 4. There have been no violations within 3 years prior to the
8 date of application for transfer; and
9 5.] The new owner qualifies as a licensee under this article.

10 (ii) 1. The Board may set a charge for the transfer of a license
11 under this paragraph, which may not exceed the administration cost for processing
12 the transfer.

13 2. If a license is transferred under this paragraph before its
14 expiration date, the Board shall permit the transferee to operate under the license
15 until the license expiration date without additional charge except for the charge
16 provided for under item 1 of this subparagraph.

17 3. If a license is transferred under this paragraph on its
18 expiration date, the charge for the transfer is the same as the fee for the issuance of
19 the license.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2004.